

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Yukihiro MORI, et al.

Application No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed: January 29, 2004

Examiner:

For: PRINTER AND CUTTER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application.

1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:
 - 1a. Form PTO-1449.
 - 1b. Copies of IDS citations.
 - 1c. An English language copy of search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report.
 - 1d. English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) attached to each non-English language publication.
 - 1e. Explanations of Relevancy of References (ATTACHMENT 1(e), hereto) for providing a concise explanation of each non-English publication.
2. In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98, a concise explanation of what is presently understood to be the relevance of each non-English language publication is
(Check appropriate Items 2a, 2b, 2c and/or 2d)
 - 2a. satisfied because all non-English language publications were cited on the enclosed "English-language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office". (See MPEP 609, Minimum Requirements for an Information Disclosure Statement, Part A(3): Concise Explanation of Relevance, pp. 600-100 to 600-101, Rev. 1, Feb. 2000.)
 - 2b. set forth in the application.

- 2c. satisfied because an English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) is attached to each non-English language publication.
- 2d. enclosed as Attachment 1(e), hereto.
3. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith). 37 CFR §§ 1.97(g) and (h).

Respectfully submitted,

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FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
122.1579

APPLICATION NO.

FIRST NAMED INVENTOR

Yukihiro MORI, et al.

FILING DATE

January 29, 2004

GROUP ART UNIT

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AG	2000-61881	02/2000	Japan			X
	AH	2000-118060	04/2000	Japan			X
	AI	2000-355128	12/2000	Japan			X
	AJ	2001-302073	10/2001	Japan			X
	AK						
	AL						

OTHER REFERENCES (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)

	AM	
	AN	
	AO	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

ATTACHMENT 1(e)

EXPLANATIONS OF RELEVANCY OF REFERENCES	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	APPLICATION NO.
	122.1579	
	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	
	Yukihiro MORI, et al.	
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Japanese reference AG is mentioned in the specification of the subject application.

Japanese reference AH has a thermal printer 1 having a clamshell structure disclosed. The printer 1 includes a thermal head 10 carried on a body frame 2, and a platen 35 carried on a cover frame 30. The body frame 2 and the cover frame 30 are mutually pivoted on a pin 5. The cover frame 30 is provided with an oblong hole 31 for guiding the platen 35 shiftably in a pressing direction. The body frame 2 is provided with a platen displacing mechanism 3 for displacing the platen 35 toward the thermal head by a mutual abutment just before the cover frame 30 is closed, and for positioning the platen 35 in a closed condition of the cover frame 30.

Japanese reference AI discloses a ticket printer with an automatic cutter. The printer includes a first printing mechanism 120, a second printing mechanism 220, and a paper cutter 60. The cutter 60 includes a fixed blade 61 and a movable blade 62, and acts to cut the printing paper after being printed in the second printing mechanism 220.

Japanese reference AJ discloses a thermal printer 1 with an automatic cutter and having a clamshell structure. The printer 1 includes a body case 2 for receiving a roll paper, a roll-paper cover 3 openable/closable relative to the body case 2, a printing mechanism 10 including a thermal head 11 and a platen 12, and a cutter mechanism 20 including a fixed blade 21 and a movable blade unit 22. The thermal head 11 and the movable blade unit 22 are arranged in the body case 2. The platen 12 and the fixed blade 21 constitute a platen unit 30 which is detachably arranged on the distal end of the roll paper cover 3.